

ABSTRACT

A method for serving multiple mobile stations under a common mobile identification number (MIN). A service provider assigns the common MIN to multiple mobile stations and maintains a subscriber profile that associates the MIN with the electronic serial numbers (ESNs) of the mobile stations. However, the service provider allows the MIN to be associated with at most one mobile station that is arranged to respond to a MIN-based termination message. As a result, when the service provider seeks to terminate a call through signaling keyed to the MIN, only one of the mobile stations will respond (e.g., begin to ring). At the same time, all of the mobile stations having the common MIN can originate calls through signaling keyed to their MIN and ESN (since the MIN/ESN pair should uniquely identify the originating station).

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